

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

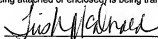
Applicant: Gregory E. Sancioff et al.
Serial No.: 10/014991
Confirmation No.: 4207
Filed: December 11, 2001
For: MEDICAL SUTURE INSTRUMENT AND METHOD OF
USE

Examiner: G. Jackson
Art Unit: 3731

Certificate of Electronic Filing Under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: March 17, 2008



(Trish McDonald)

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement has been before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

No fee or certification is required.

PART II: Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified PTO/SB/08). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

It is believed that the relevance of Japanese reference JP5-237123 may be gleaned from the accompanying English language abstract, the figures, and US 5690653 (previously cited), which is an English language family member patent.

PART III: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 (modified PTO/SB/08) be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his or her own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

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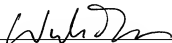
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Art Unit: 3773

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


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Docket No.: D0188.70162US01
Date: March 17, 2008
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